

trations the reviewer found only one instance of technical depiction which might be questioned and that is the Gilliam suspension operation where the illustrator has placed the anchorage of the round ligaments so high that it would result in an abnormally upward displacement of the uterus.

The bibliographic material of the second edition has been enhanced by the addition of recent publications. Many chapters have been revised and brought up to date. What was said of the first edition is even more true of the second and that is that the logical arrangement of the subject matter and the concise treatment of technical details makes for easy reading and quick reference. Once again, Wharton's *Gynecology* is recommended to the profession and the medical students as a gynecologic text and reference book of outstanding merit.

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A TEXTBOOK OF MEDICINE. Seventh Edition. Illustrated. Edited by Russell L. Cecil, A.B., M.D., Sc.D., with assistance of Walsh McDermott, M.D., and Harold G. Wolff, M.D., Philadelphia and London. W. B. Saunders Company, 1947.

This outstanding textbook of medicine requires no introduction to the medical profession. Seven editions in 20 years reflects not only the continued demand for the book but the efforts of the editors to keep the contents up-to-date. It is not possible to review the 1730 pages, but it might be profitable to indicate wherein this edition differs from the sixth edition, published in 1943.

Most notable has been the change in editorship for the important section on Nervous Diseases. Dr. Harold G. Wolff of New York has taken the place of Dr. Foster Kennedy whose resignation follows 20 years of editorship. This section has been revised with new authors and new subjects included. Two of the articles of particular merit include that on "Headache" by Wolff and one in "Psychoneuroses" by Rennie.

Sixteen articles on subjects not previously covered include Blackwater fever, drug allergy, porphyria, hypervitaminosis, hemoglobinurias, psychosomatic medicine, diphtheritic polyneuritis, narcolepsy, etc.

Fifty-five articles by new contributors on subjects previously discussed include many outstanding sections. The new discussion on diabetes mellitus and hypoglycemia by Loeb is excellent. The new articles on the ductless glands include authoritative discussions on the adrenals by Thorn, on the thymus by Harvey and on the thyroid by Barr. The article on the meningococcus infections by Dingle should be mentioned, and two excellent colored photographs demonstrating the rash are included.

There has been considerable discussion as to the relative advantages of single versus multiple authorship in medical texts. For a broad general introduction to medicine, the one-author texts may be desirable, but if one desires a detailed discussion of the pathologic physiology or therapy of a subject, multiple authors with particular experience in their respective fields are preferable.

The use of multiple writers naturally results in a multiplicity of style and a variation of quality, but the reviewer has found that these disadvantages are outweighed by the specific information available for reference. The one criticism that may be offered is that there are too many authors in some sections so that cohesiveness is impaired. A greater attempt might be made to incorporate related topics, as has been done with the excellent sections on diseases of the stomach and intestines by Palmer, and the peripheral vascular diseases by Landis.

This text may be very highly recommended to medical students and practitioners for present-day opinion of American authors. It has no peer as a well-rounded textbook of medicine.

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES OF THE SKIN. By Louis Schwartz, M.D., Medical Director, United States Public Health Service, Chief, Dermatoses Section; Associated Clinical Professor of Dermatology and Syphilology, New York University; Louis Tulipan, M.D., Clinical Professor of Dermatology and Syphilology, New York University, College of Medicine, New York City, etc., and Samuel Peck, B.S., M.D., Dermatologist, Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York City. Second edition, thoroughly revised, published 1947. Octavo, 964 pages, illustrated with 146 engravings and a colored plate. Cloth, Lea & Febiger. Price \$12.50.

This book is an outstanding one for any physician's library and is a "must" for dermatologists, industrial physicians and students of industrial medicine. In your reviewer's opinion it is by far the best work on the subject in the English language and, probably, the best available in any language.

Industrial dermatoses constitute about 65 per cent of all occupational diseases. To understand them a physician must know something about the manufacturing processes and intricate chemistry involved in all of the old and newer fabrications. Obviously, it is impossible for him to obtain this knowledge first hand. The authors of this text have gone out into the plants and have compiled this information for him.

The text takes up, chapter by chapter, almost every conceivable manufacturing process, discusses all of the steps involved, all of the various chemicals and irritants encountered and tells of their effects upon the skin. For example, the manufacture of dyes, resins, lacquers, oils, leathers and cosmetics is carefully described. There are many tables of valuable information. For example, one table alone includes about 1,000 possible industrial irritants and gives the correct strength and vehicle used for patch testing.

There are excellent chapters on the medicolegal aspects of industrial dermatology, on the compensation laws of various states, on prophylaxis and plant sanitation, on patch testing, on the war gases.

The senior author, as Chief of the Section on Dermatoses Investigation of the United States Public Health Service, was particularly active during the war studying the origin of dermatoses among the armed forces and in the war industries and in devising methods of preventing them.

The book is exhaustively indexed, has valuable bibliography and is well illustrated. Some of the photographs, probably taken under field conditions, could be improved.

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SYNOPSIS OF OPERATIVE SURGERY. By H. E. Mobley, M.D., F.A.C.S., Chief of Surgery at St. Anthony's Hospital, Morrilton, Arkansas. With 383 Text Illustrations, including 37 in color. Second Edition. 1947. The C. V. Mosby Company, Publishers, St. Louis.

According to the author, the book "is intended for those serious-minded students who desire to secure a clear and concise picture of each step in any important operation." It is a compendium of operative procedures and makes an effort to cover the entire field of surgery including ophthalmology, otolaryngology and neuro-surgery. Most common operative procedures are described and illustrated. There is substantially no discussion of diagnosis, indications for or hazards and complications of operation. Pathological, bacteriological, physiological and chemical considerations are omitted. Such discredited and discarded operations as drainage of the abdomen for generalized peritonitis, gastropexy, splenopexy and splenotomy are included. The only description of Caesarean section is that of the old, classical operation. Operative procedures are better described and illustrated in a number of standard works. The book fills no need and occupies an unimportant place in the surgical literature.